Making CZM open and participatory

1268. SHRI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received proposals to make process of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) open and participatory; and

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Forest cover in Assam

1269. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the data of land area under forest cover in Assam and the North-Eastern States since 1990-91 on five yearly basis;

(b) the estimated loss of forest area in the next 10 years due to Government's industrial policy; and

(c) the corresponding effects on the ecology and the wildlife in the past and future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Forest Survery of India (FSI) is assessing the forest cover of the country using remote sensing technology on a two year cycle; hence data on forest cover in Assam & N.E. is available on 2 year cycle starting 1991 and can be presented on a 4 year interval instead of 5 year as below.

(area in km^2)

State	1991	1995	1999	2003
Assam	24,751	24,061	23,688	27,826
Arunachal Pradesh	68,757	68,221	68,847	68,019
Manipur	17,685	17,558	17,384	17,219
Meghalaya	15,875	15,714	15,633	16,839
Mizoram	18,853	18,576	18,338	18,430
Nagaland	14,321	14,291	14,164	13,609
Tripura	5,535	5,538	5,749	8,093
Sikkim	3,041	3,127	3,118	3,262

(b) Since loss of forest area depends upon number of factors such as demand of timber and Non-Timber forest Produce, need of developmental projects and

requirement of land for agriculture purposes, it is difficult to estimate the loss of forest area in next 10 years.

(c) Loss of forest area and reduction in forest quality does have adverse impact on ecology and wildlife

Illegal chopping of barks

1270. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that forest mafia have chopped the barks of around 2,000 pine trees in the Deber Ghat–Garari forest belt of Renuka area for illegal tapping of resin;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the mafia brutally chopped the bark of pine forest and put heavy amount of acid on the wounds of trees to get more resin out of it causing irreparable damage to the trees which would prove to be the biggest environmental hazard in the area; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government to check this illegal chopping of bark of pine trees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) As per the report received from State Forest Department, barks of 262 pine trees was found to be illicitly chopped in the Reserved Forests of Garari. In this regard a damage report No.32 dated 7.4.2007 was issued and Rs. 26,820.00 have been recovered from the defaulter. No damage to pine trees due to use of acid has been reported.

(d) The action taken by Government to check illegal chopping of bark of pine trees are as under:

- Regular patrolling & inspection of forest areas by the field staff and officials.
- The offenders are punished as per the provisions of existing laws/rules.
- Awareness amongst the local people, particularly the workers engaged in resin tapping to adopt right practices for resin tapping.

Rejuvenation of the River Yamuna

1271. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to rejuvenate the Yamuna River by building two mega reservoirs to trap rain water for perennial water flow;

(b) if so, the agencies which are involved therein;

(c) the estimated cost of building reservoirs, sewage treatment plants and other inputs; and